

Calculating hunting hours:

Legal hunting hours for the early September Canada goose season start 30 minutes before sunrise and end at sunset. To calculate hunting hours for your zone, first, determine if you are hunting in the northern or southern area using the map to the right. Then determine the appropriate zone in which you are hunting. Add the minutes shown for this zone to the opening and closing times found in the appropriate hunting hours table below.

Northern Area Hunting Hours			Southern Area Hunting Hours		
	AM	PM		AM	PM
Sept 1	5:41	7:28	Sept 1	5:44	7:27
Sept 2	5:42	7:27	Sept 2	5:45	7:25
Sept 3	5:43	7:25	Sept 3	5:46	7:23
Sept 4	5:45	7:23	Sept 4	5:48	7:22
Sept 5	5:46	7:21	Sept 5	5:49	7:20
Sept 6	5:47	7:19	Sept 6	5:50	7:18
Sept 7	5:48	7:17	Sept 7	5:51	7:16
Sept 8	5:50	7:15	Sept 8	5:52	7:14
Sept 9	5:51	7:13	Sept 9	5:53	7:13
Sept 10	5:52	7:11	Sept 10	5:54	7:11
Sept 11	5:53	7:09	Sept 11	5:55	7:09
Sept 12	5:54	7:08	Sept 12	5:57	7:07
Sept 13	5:56	7:06	Sept 13	5:58	7:05
Sept 14	5:57	7:04	Sept 14	5:59	7:03
Sept 15	5:58	7:02	Sept 15	6:00	7:02

Pick up litter and keep your hunting grounds healthy!

Finding Public Land Open to Hunting

The DNR website provides detailed information about public and public-access lands in your area. Go to [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and click on the hunting link. Look for the box titled 'Where to Hunt' located on the right side of the screen.

Dear Canada goose hunter:

For 12 years we have provided a recreational opportunity and a population management tool for Wisconsin nesting Canada geese through this early season. For several years we saw a relatively stable spring breeding population near 120,000 and an increasing harvest which peaked at 24,000 in 2008. In 2009 harvest dropped to 15,500 but increased to 19,900 in 2010 in response to different weather and habitat conditions. Our spring Canada goose breeding population has increased the last 2 years.

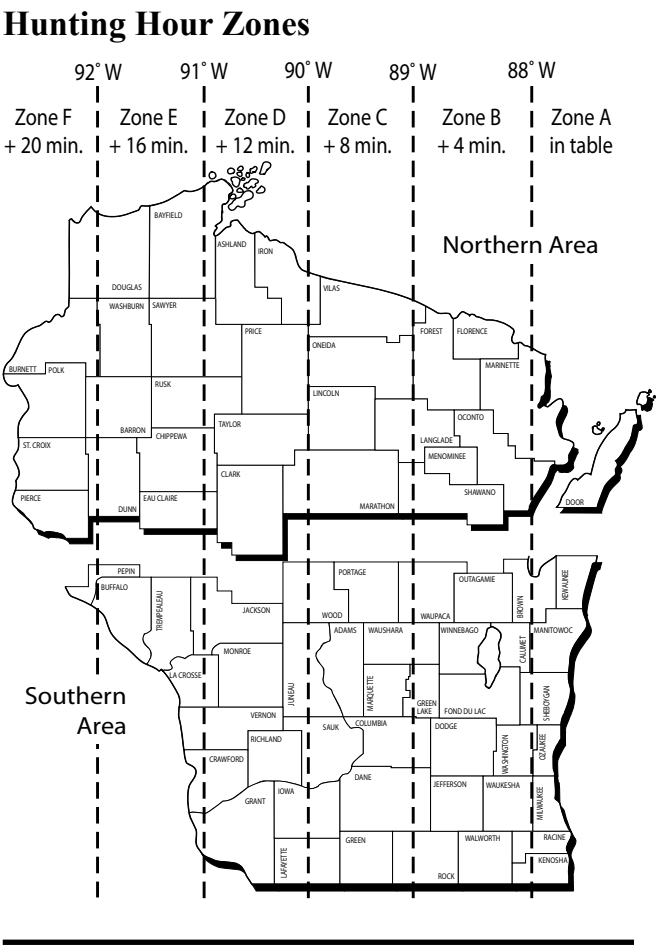
Many hunters last fall told me that they saw plenty of Canada geese but many geese remained in towns and other areas off limits to hunting. Remember that hunting the early goose season is different from hunting the late season. Changes to Canada goose hunting opportunity at the local level will depend upon goose hunters talking with local landowners and community leaders about creative ways to provide hunter access to the local goose concentrations. I recommend that you take time to watch Canada goose feeding and movement patterns during the season and adapt as the Canada geese change their habits.

Please keep in mind that there are other folks spending time outdoors in early September. There is room for everyone to enjoy their recreational pursuits if we respect each other's interests.

You are required to report each goose harvested by calling 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673) as well as validating your permit by slitting the date of kill. Be prepared to enter your DNR customer ID, the date of kill, the county of kill, and the number of geese harvested. It only takes a few minutes to report this mandatory information. Our ability to document goose harvest through this system is important to the management of Canada goose populations.

We hope you have a safe and successful season!

Kent Van Horn  
Migratory Game Bird Ecologist



Report Hunting Violations

**CALL:** 1-800-TIP-WDNR (1-800-847-9367; toll free) or #367 from your cell phone (free for U.S. Cellular customers). **Note:** this is NOT an information number.

**TEXT:** Text a tip to TIP-411 (847-411), only available from 7 am - 10 pm. Standard text rates apply.

**EMAIL:** [le.hotline@wisconsin.gov](mailto:le.hotline@wisconsin.gov).

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

The Department of Natural Resources is committed to serving people with disabilities. If you need this information in an alternative format, please call 608-266-8204.

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Permits, licenses and stamps

To participate in this early season, hunters must possess all of the following:

- ◆ a current Wisconsin Small Game Hunting License (or Sports or Patron License, or an Archery License if hunting with a bow),
- ◆ a current Wisconsin Early September Canada Goose Hunting Permit,
- ◆ Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration,
- ◆ Federal Migratory Bird Stamp (available after June 24),\*
- ◆ Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamp Privilege\* (printed on your license),
- ◆ a valid hunter education certificate\*\*, if born on or after January 1, 1973.

\*A person who has not reached the age of 16, but who is at least 10, is not required to have either stamp. Wisconsin hunter safety graduates do not need to purchase the state stamp privilege during the period in which the small game hunting license is free, but they must possess all other requirements. Senior Citizen Recreation Card holders and Armed Forces Small Game License holders are also exempt from the state stamp requirement, but a federal waterfowl stamp and HIP registration are required.

\*\* A hunter education certificate is not needed if you are at least 10 years of age and participating in the hunting mentorship program. Mentored hunters **MUST** hunt within arms reach of a mentor and possess the appropriate hunting license, permits, stamps, and tags. The mentor must be at least 18 years of age and possess a valid hunting license, and must have completed a hunter education course if born on or after January 1, 1973. Only one firearm or bow is allowed to be possessed jointly between a mentored hunter and their mentor.

**Permits** are available for \$3.00 at DNR offices that provide counter service, license sales agents, by phone at 877-WI-LICENSE, or online at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov). Hunting permits may be purchased at any time prior to and during the Early September Canada Goose season.

**Stamps:**

- The 2011 Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamp (\$7) is available at license agents and DNR offices that provide counter service, as well as online, [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), or by phone (1-877-945-4236).
- The 2011 Federal Migratory Bird Stamp can be purchased for \$15 at U.S. Post Offices, some U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offices, and online at [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov). The Federal Migratory Bird Stamp may also be purchased for \$17.50 at license agents and DNR offices that provide counter service. This stamp will not be available via the DNR phone service or website. If purchased at a license agent or DNR office, the hunter will receive a temporary stamp valid for 45 days, and will be mailed the actual stamp within 45 days.

2011

Wisconsin

Early September

Canada Goose

Hunting Regulations

September 1-15, 2011



Remember to report each Canada goose harvested within 48 hours of the kill by calling 1-800-99-GOOSE. (1-800-994-6673)

Visit the DNR website at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)

Wis. Dept. of Natural Resources  
Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707  
PUB-WM-194 2011

Daily Bag and Possession Limits:

Statewide: 5 Canada geese daily, 10 in possession

Other than Canada geese and mourning doves, no other species of migratory game bird may be taken from September 1–15.

Where Can I Hunt?

Canada goose hunting during the early season is open statewide, including the Horicon Zone; participation will not affect your eligibility to hunt during the regular seasons. Any locally closed or restricted areas are posted with signs that describe the type of hunting regulations that apply to the area\*. Please contact local property managers for more information. It is the **hunter's** responsibility to know what rules apply.

\*See "Caution" statement regarding federal lands on the interior of this pamphlet.

**Warning:** Some of the areas in the state have local firearm discharge restrictions. Please contact the local law enforcement officials to see if there are any local restrictions on the discharge of firearms in the area you plan to hunt.

The state of Wisconsin is a participating member of the **Wildlife Violator Compact**. The Wildlife Violator Compact is an agreement between participating states that prohibits a person whose hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges are suspended in one state from obtaining licenses, permits, or participating in those activities in another state. The participating states include: AL, AK, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, ND, NM, NY, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, and WY. *Additional states may have joined the compact since the printing of this pamphlet.* Please visit the following website for more information: [dnr.wi.gov/org/es/enforcement/wvc.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/enforcement/wvc.htm).

Questions? Call the DNR Call Center at:

1-888-WDNR INFO (1-888-936-7463) ◆ Local 608-266-2621

Staff are available 7 days a week from 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

**Hmong and Spanish speaking representatives available.**



# State and Federal Migratory Game Bird Restrictions

**Migratory Game Birds** include ducks, geese, brant, rails, coots, moorhens, woodcock, snipe, and mourning doves. The restrictions which apply include all those listed in the *Small Game Hunting Regulations* (separate pamphlet) plus the following:

**All rules below are both State (S) and Federal (F) unless specifically noted.**

- ◆ **Dual violation:** Violations of most state migratory bird regulations are also violations of federal regulations.
- ◆ **Caution:** More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges and federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas open to public hunting. For additional information on federal regulations, contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Migratory Bird Coordinator, . 5600 American Blvd. West, Suite 990, Bloomington, MN 55437-1458, Telephone: (612) 713-5300.

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- ◆ **Hours:** Hunt before or after established hunting hours. (See hunting hours and map.)
- ◆ **Closed season:** Hunt migratory game birds during the closed season.
- ◆ **Daily bag limits:** Take, or attempt to take, in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

## Methods Restrictions

### 1. Open Water (S)

- ◆ **Open Water Hunting:** No person may hunt waterfowl in open water from, or with the aid of, any blind including any boat, canoe, raft, contrivance, or similar device except from:
  1. *Mississippi River:* Blinds in any of the waters of the Mississippi River and adjoining counties provided the blinds are securely anchored and located not more than 100 feet from any shoreline, including islands. Blinds in open water in the Lake Pepin and Grant County\* portions of the Mississippi River are permitted regardless of the distance from shore provided the blinds are securely anchored. \* *Federal laws do not allow hunting in open water near Potosi from Wisconsin river mile 586.3 to 592.1 in Grant County. For more information contact the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge at (507) 452-4232 or visit fws.gov/midwest/UpperMississippiRiver/.*
  2. *Big Green Lake and Great Lakes area:* Blinds in open waters of Big Green Lake in Green Lake County, Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, and Green Bay if beyond 500 feet of any lake or bay shoreline. Blinds do not have to be anchored in these areas.
  3. *Lake Winnebago and Petenwell Flowage:* Blinds in open waters of Lake Winnebago and Petenwell flowage (north of state highway 21 and south of state highway 73) if located more than 1,000 feet from any shoreline, including islands, provided blinds are securely anchored.

**The following methods of hunting waterfowl are legal and not considered hunting from open water:**

- Hunting from a boat, blind, or similar devices when in compliance with all of the following:
  - Some part of the boat or blind is within 3 feet of naturally occurring vegetation (live or dead\*) rooted to the bottom.
  - \* Dead stumps and dead trees in the water do not constitute a natural growth of vegetation for the purpose of this rule.
  - This vegetation provides at least 50% concealment of the hunter and the boat and blind when viewed from at least 1 direction, and
  - The vegetation extends above the water’s surface to a height at or above the sides of any boat being used for hunting.

Note: *You may hunt in any open water area provided you are standing on the bottom without the aid of a blind. Blinds include, but are not limited to, any boat, canoe, raft, or similar device that provides any concealment for the hunter. In areas where open water blinds are legal, (see above) they shall be removed at the close of hunting hours each day.*

- ◆ **Jump Shooting:** The open water restrictions are not intended to prohibit legal jump shooting activities. It is legal to hunt by non-motorized boat on streams. However, on larger bodies of water, where shooting shore-to-shore is not possible, the hunter must keep a portion of the boat within 3 feet of natural emergent vegetation rooted to the bottom which provides at least 50% concealment of the hunter and the boat when viewed from at least one direction. Skirting the edge of rivers and lakes in this manner is considered legal.

### 2. Structures, Boats and Vehicles

While pursuing migratory game birds, **it is illegal to:**

- ◆ **Structures (S):** Hunt from any pier, dam, dock, or similar structure. Class A disabled hunting permit holders are exempted.
- ◆ **Sink box:** Hunt from a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- ◆ **Waterfowl blinds (S):** Establish a waterfowl blind on state

property, including the bed of any navigable lake, prior to 7 days before the season or leave it established beyond 7 days after the close of the season. No person may maintain, occupy or use any blind left on state property during the season unless the owner's name, address, and DNR customer identification number in the English language and in lettering one inch square or larger is affixed permanently to the blind and shall be readily visible and legible at all times.

- ◆ **Moving boats:** Hunt from any *moving* boat *other than those* propelled by paddle, oars, or pole. Motorboats and sailboats must have their motors completely shut off and/or the sail furled and the boat's progress stopped before loading a firearm and shooting. Use of boat motors is not allowed on all wildlife areas. Check for signs and with local property manager for restrictions on use of boat motors.
- ◆ **Vehicle use:** Hunt migratory game birds from, or with the aid or use of, any vehicle except by qualified disabled persons under DNR permit and as authorized by federal rules.

### 3. Devices

While pursuing migratory game birds, **it is illegal to:**

- ◆ **Decoys:** Hunt with decoys which are:
  1. Placed beyond 200 feet from the blind or cover in which the hunter is located (S).
  2. Placed in the water prior to one hour before the opening of waterfowl hunting time (S).
  3. Left in the water more than 20 minutes after the close of waterfowl hunting time (S).
  4. Left in the water unattended. *Note: You may leave decoys unattended on dry land* (S).

All live, tame, or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

- ◆ **Bird calls:** Possess while hunting or use records, tapes, CDs, or digital recordings of migratory bird calls or sounds or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- ◆ **Baiting:** Directly or indirectly place, expose, deposit, distribute, or scatter salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.
- ◆ **Baited area:** Hunt migratory game birds by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. Any such area will be considered a baited area for 10 days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed.
- ◆ **Hazing:** Use in any manner any air, water, or motor-driven land conveyance for the purposes of concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up any migratory game bird to put them in the range of hunters.

### 4. Guns and Ammunition

While pursuing migratory game birds, **it is illegal to:**

- ◆ **Shotguns:** Hunt with anything other than a shotgun fired from the shoulder, bow and arrow, or by falconry.
- ◆ **Crossbows** are not legal to use except by the following:
  - a. Disabled hunters issued a Crossbow permit or a Class A, Class B Crossbow, or Class C permit that authorizes hunting with a crossbow with a valid hunting license.
  - b. Hunters 65 years of age or older with a valid hunting license.

**Note:** When authorized, crossbows shall have a minimum draw of 100 pounds, a workable safety, and use at least 14–inch long bolts or arrows equipped with broadheads. **Bows that are equipped with a Draw-Lock type mechanism that holds the bow at full draw are considered crossbows, but are exempt from the 100 pound minimum requirement.**

- ◆ **Other Methods:** Take with a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun with a bore larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- ◆ **Firearms transport (S):** Carry in or on a motor-driven boat while the motor is running any firearm or bow unless such firearm is unloaded and such bow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.
- ◆ **Shotgun capacity:** Hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which limits the capacity of the gun (magazine and chamber combined) to three shells. The filler must be such that it cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.
- ◆ **Shot type:** Hunt with or while in possession of any type of lead shot when hunting waterfowl, snipe, rails, moorhens, and coot statewide, or while hunting mourning doves on department managed lands. Any shot used must be non-toxic (defined in "Approved Non-toxic Shot Types" table). This means muzzleloaders must also use non-toxic shot. Only non-toxic shot sizes BB, BBB, T, or smaller are legal for hunting migratory game birds. Size F shot is illegal in Wisconsin.

## Health Advisory

- No one should eat Canada geese using the waters in the City of Cedarburg. The DNR has issued this health advice to protect you from exposure to PCBs in Canada geese taken in this area.
- Consumption of Canada geese from Whitewater Lake and Rice Lake in Walworth Co. should be limited to once a month because of mercury contamination.

## Approved Non-toxic Shot Types

Shot Type	Composition by Weight
Bismuth-Tin	97% bismuth and 3% tin
Iron (Steel)	Iron and carbon
Iron-Tungsten	Any proportion of tungsten and ≥1% iron
Iron-Tungsten-Nickel	≥ 1% iron, any proportion of tungsten, and up to 40% nickel
Tungsten-Bronze (Two Types)	51.1% tungsten, 44.4% copper, 3.9% tin, and 0.6% iron and 60% tungsten, 35.1% copper, 3.9% tin, and 1% iron
Tungsten-Iron-Copper-Nickel	40–76% tungsten, 10–37% iron, 9–16% copper, and 5–7% nickel
Tungsten-Matrix	95.9% tungsten and 4.1% polymer
Tungsten-Polymer	95.5% tungsten and 4.5% Nylon 6 or 11
Tungsten-Tin-Iron	Any proportions of tungsten and tin, and ≥1% iron
Tungsten-Tin -Bismuth	Any proportions of tungsten, tin, and bismuth.
Tungsten-Tin-Iron-Nickel	65% tungsten, 21.8% tin, 10.4% iron, and 2.8% nickel
Tungsten-Iron-Fluoropolymer	41.5-95.2 tungsten, 1.5-52.0 iron, and 3.5-8.0 fluoropolymer

**Notice: Non-toxic shot is required for all shotgun hunting on all federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), except while hunting deer and small game mammals with slugs.**

## Possession Restrictions

- ◆ **Retrieval:** No person may kill or cripple any game bird without making every reasonable effort to retrieve such bird. A hunter who cripples a bird which falls or moves into open water may immediately pursue the bird into open water and shoot from a boat while being propelled by paddle, oars, or pole.
- ◆ **Possession Limit:** No person may possess more than a possession limit at any time.

## Reporting and Validating Requirements

- ◆ When a Canada goose is killed, and before it is carried by hand or transported in any manner, the hunter shall validate the permit by slitting or punching holes in the permit in the manner indicated. Failure to do so renders any goose in the person’s possession illegal.
- ◆ Hunters must report each goose harvested within 48 hours of the kill by calling, toll free, 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673).
- ◆ **Tagging:** No person may give, put, or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:
  1. The hunter’s signature
  2. The hunter’s address
  3. The total number of birds tagged per species
  4. The dates such birds were killedNo person or business may receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged and a record of such receipt is kept by the business.
- ◆ **Possession of live birds:** Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.
- ◆ **Importation:** For information regarding the importation of migratory game birds killed in another country, hunters should consult the federal rules 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66 (a copy can be obtained from the USFWS address shown under “Caution” on the inside of this pamphlet).
- ◆ **Shipment:** No person may ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with:
  1. The name and address of the person sending the birds.
  2. The name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent.
  3. The number of birds by species, contained in the package.
- ◆ **Transportation:** After validating your permit, if required, migratory game birds may be field dressed before they are transported from the field. However, the head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds while in the field and while being transported (1) from the field *to* the person’s permanent residence *and* (2) between a hunting cabin, camp, motel, or other temporary residence *to* the permanent residence.

**Bird Bands:** If you obtain a bird band, please visit [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov) to report the date and location of recovery and receive immediate information on your banded bird. If you are unable to report your band via the website, you may call 1-800-327-BAND or write the band number on a 3" x 5" postcard along with the date and location of recovery, your name and address, and mail the card to:

Bird Banding Laboratory  
12100 Beech Forest Rd.  
Laurel, Maryland 20708.